



Neighborhood Enhancement Program Returns

After a suspension of more than two years due to the recession, the council approved the revitalization of the Neighborhood Enhancement Program, now known as NEP-2.0, with various changes and improvements. The program was originally launched in 1988.



NEP provides residents an opportunity to select small capital projects for city-funded improvements in their neighborhoods.

Residents themselves are in the best position to submit project ideas and decide, through a democratic process, how to prioritize improvement opportunities in their own neighborhoods.

The city entrusts residents to determine the needs of their neighborhood and which improvements would best cultivate their distinct neighborhood character. Potential projects may include, but are not limited to: art elements, crosswalk improvements, farm stands, trail connections, street lighting,

picnic shelters and play structures. Projects are expected to be completed within three to five years after selection.

The program outlines subarea boundaries in alignment with the Comprehensive Plan, identifying 14 neighborhood areas; Downtown and BelRed, as well as Eastgate and Factoria, have been combined. The NEP-2 will serve two communities per year, with a seven-year cycle in sync with the city's seven-year capital projects cycle. Council approved \$5 million dollars in the seven year 2014-21 CIP Budget for the Neighborhood Enhancement Program, which will be allocated to each neighborhood area based on the number of households in each area. The revitalized NEP-2.0, has removed the previous CIP project cap of \$150K per project and now allows project budgets to be up to the entire neighborhood area budget.

The first NEP area scheduled to launch this year is Eastgate/Factoria. More details will be coming to neighborhoods in the months ahead. For questions or comments, please contact Ying Carlson, ycarlson@bellevuewa.gov or 425-4502-4342.



Neighborhood Leadership Gathering

Focused on Neighborhood Improvement

Wednesday, September 9, 6:30-8pm

Bellevue City Hall Room 1E-108



Mark Your Calendar for the bi-annual Neighborhood Leadership Gathering hosted by Neighborhood Outreach! The event is an excellent opportunity for

neighborhood leaders to meet each other and to learn about community issues focused at the neighborhood level.

This upcoming gathering, *Focused on Neighborhood Improvement*, will provide details about the newly reinstated Neighborhood Enhancement Program. The program has always been very popular and well known among Bellevue residents, but there are some significant updates to make it even better. Attendees will learn what the new changes are to the program and how residents can participate in a meaningful way to enhance their community.

Neighborhood association members, emerging leaders and those interested in becoming more involved in their neighborhood are invited to attend. There is no cost to attend and light refreshments will be served. Please reserve your space by contacting neighborhoodoutreach@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-6836.

Celebrate Our Heroes at National Night Out

Tuesday, August 4, 12-5pm

Crossroads Farmers Market, Crossroads Shopping Center, 15600 N.E. 8th St

Join us to promote building police and community partnerships, and learn how to work with the police to prevent and reduce crime and strengthen neighborhood safety, spirit, and cooperation.

Take part in a wide range of fun activities, games and giveaways for the kids, and meet with representatives from the city and community:

- Meet our police and fire department heroes, take a picture with a Comic Book hero - Batman, Wonder Woman, and others
- Learn about the King County Library System *Every Hero Has a Story* Summer Reading Program and KCLS Family Story Times and Library To Go!
- View police vehicles and equipment, vintage police vehicles
- Help kids be safe walkers with information from the Kids Pedestrian Safety *Stop, Look, and Listen* program - and meet Pedbee, the safety mascot, too!

Opening ceremony at 12:00 pm with Police Chief Steve Mylett, Fire Chief Mark Risen, city officials, and the Comic Book Characters for Causes Heroes! For more information, contact Officer Craig Hanaumi at the Bellevue Police Crossroads Community Station chanaumi@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-2891





Solarize Workshops Draw Residents Again

***Saturday, August
15, South Bellevue
Community Center,
10am-noon***

***Tuesday, September 1, Northwest Arts
Center Studio D, 6-8pm***

***Thursday, September 24, Highland
Community Center Multipurpose Room,
6:30-8:30pm***

“Solarize Bellevue,” a campaign to reduce the cost of solar electricity for Bellevue residents and businesses that inspired 50 households to install solar panels on their homes, is offering new workshops again this summer and fall.

Last summer, more than 300 residents attended workshops, taking the opportunity to learn about the costs, incentives, benefits and requirements for putting solar power on their homes. The 50 new solar arrays installed across town increased Bellevue’s solar production by 45 percent.

Subsidies, incentives and the dropping price of solar technology can now provide a return on your solar investment in less than five years through the Solarize program. Low-interest financing options also make going solar more inviting.

This year’s program is aiming to match last year’s performance, with a goal of installing 50 new systems. In addition, the campaign contractor, A&R Solar, will donate a free system to a local nonprofit organization once 25 new contracts have been signed. The Bellevue Boys and Girls Club Teen Center received a free solar power system last year.

Workshop attendees become eligible to receive a free site assessment and cost estimate by the contractor. There’s still time to get involved! For more information and to register for a workshop today, visit www.GreenWA.org.

Tell Us What You Would Like to See in a Future Park

How do you use Bellevue’s parks and trails today? What would you most like to see added to the parks system in the future? Answering questions like these will help us update our Parks & Open Space System Plan. This plan contains the community’s long-range vision for acquisition and development of parks and trails and preservation of open space.

There are several ways you can participate – each of which is detailed on this web site:

www.bellevuewa.gov/park-plan.htm . To

start, please take five minutes to complete this web survey:

www.surveymonkey.com/s/bellevueparksurvey



Anyone who lives or works in Bellevue is welcome to take the survey, but we would love to see a strong showing by any Bellevue park user under the age of 18. Youth are active park users from whom we don’t hear enough! One survey can be submitted per device, so round up your laptops, phones and tablets and have everyone in your household (minus the dog) complete their own survey.



Jubilee Reach – Day of Sharing and Caring



On Saturday August 22, you, your family or your neighborhood group could make a difference to

a neighbor struggling with the outside appearance of their home. “A Day of Sharing and Caring” a partnership between Jubilee Reach, the City of Bellevue, local businesses and homeowners is now in its 8th year. Have you wanted to help but didn’t know where to start or have too little time? Would a 4 hour block of your time be manageable to help those who may be physically or financially unable to do this work?

Volunteers are needed to tackle outside improvements on some 20 homes, including painting, yard work and carport clean-up. Applications have been submitted by Bellevue homeowners facing economic or other life challenges. Please consider volunteering to serve the needs of more of our neighbors.

For more information, please visit website <http://www.jubileereach.org/> or contact Ken Carpenter at kenc@jubileereach.org 425-818-4106, by August 11.

EverGreen Gift Market

Saturday, August 29, 11am-6pm

Northwest Arts Center, 9825 NE 24th St

Being green is easy at the EverGreen Gift Market. This one-day event on August 29 is an opportunity for community members to find handmade, local, upcycled, and sustainably-sourced goods.

Sponsored by the City of Bellevue, the EverGreen Gift Market is a free, family-friendly event, where visitors can discover new tastes, sights, and smells and browse some wonderful



goods and crafts. The market is the first of two offered this year. A holiday version of the market will return on November 21 at Highland Middle School.

“The EverGreen Gift Market is an opportunity for our community to support local businesses and artisans,” says Jennifer Goodhart, Conservation and Outreach Program Administrator for the City of Bellevue. “You will find something for everyone on your gift list and have the peace of mind of knowing that your purchases support a more sustainable future for you, your family, and your community.” Vendors interested in participating in the event should email events@terralindaconsulting.com

Bellevue under Water Advisory

Bellevue has joined a regional water shortage response plan. The plan is a result of a historically



hot and dry summer paired with higher than average water use and lack of precipitation.

At this stage in the plan, Bellevue residents are being asked to be thoughtful in their use of water. Bellevue Utilities has a number of resources and ideas to help customers to conserve water, including the following:

- Water conservation tips at www.bellevuewa.gov/water_conservation.htm.
- Free water saving items from Bellevue’s water provider – the Cascade Water Alliance – at <http://www.cascadewater.org/free-items.php>.
- The Waterwise Garden at the Bellevue Botanical Gardens, where residents can learn how they can save water in their own gardens.

This advisory stage lets customers know that the potential exists for a water supply shortage. At this time no mandatory restrictions are in place.

TRAFFIC CORNER

Changes ahead on I-405

Bellevue commuters and others heading north on I-405 may be familiar with all the work the State Department of Transportation has been doing between NE 160th St and SR 522 in Bothell. Workers are adding a braided ramp similar to the one connecting downtown Bellevue to SR 520 that was completed in 2012. This month, WSDOT will complete the Bothell work the weekend of August 29-30. Northbound I-405 will be reduced to one lane in Bothell and several key ramps will be closed. The new ramp system will open on August 31.

The work in Bothell is part of the really big change – the Bellevue to Lynnwood Widening and Express Toll Lanes project -- which is coming in September to I-405. Once tolling begins, drivers will be able to access the northbound I-405 Express Toll Lanes from the NE 6th St ramp in Downtown Bellevue, and will begin paying a toll, unless they are part of a carpool or vanpool that will use the lanes free with the designated number of passengers (the general purpose lanes on I-405 will still be free). The I-405 Express Toll Lanes homepage offers detailed information about how the new tolling system will work. The toll rates will be dynamic and will change based on time and congestion. The most important thing to know is that with a Flex Pass, carpoolers still ride free. At peak hours, 3+ carpools drive free and at off-peak hours 2+ carpools will ride free.



Summer Transportation Construction

Summer is a busy time for transportation projects in Bellevue. The following project gets under way in August:

116th Ave. NE pavement overlay, NE 12th St. to Northup Way: The Pavement Overlay Program includes repaving and restriping 116th Ave NE, adding bike lanes on both sides of the roadway, adding a mid-block crosswalk near Children's Hospital and reconstructing curb ramps and sidewalks. The grinding and paving work will be done by the end of August. Teresa Becker is the city's pavement overlay program manager (425-452-7942 or Tbecker@bellevuewa.gov).

The safety of the public and construction workers are the city's top priorities. Sometimes that means closing a lane or closing an entire roadway to accommodate construction equipment. City officials

understand that road work can be inconvenient at times and appreciate the patience and understanding of the public.

For extended roadwork, travelers are encouraged to find an alternate route, if possible. Download the MyBellevue App onto your mobile phone or tablet to access the following helpful tools, which also are available via the City's Internet homepage (<http://www.bellevuewa.gov/>):

- Traffic Advisories
- Capital Projects Map
- Transportation Department Twitter: @BvueTrans
- Real-time Traffic Map & Cameras



August Meetings

(All meetings are in City Hall unless otherwise noted. Agendas are subject to change. You may confirm with Neighborhood Outreach the day before or day of the meeting. Or consult the City web pages listed below to download agendas.)

8/3 City Council (6:00 study session, Council Conference Room) CIP Major Projects Update, Department of Planning and Community Development/Department of Development Services Work Program (8:00 regular session, Council Chambers) Commendation for Dorothy Webb, Management Brief on Energize Eastside Phase 1 Scoping Study, Consent Calendar, Hearing Examiner's Recommendation for Mountvue Place Rezone, Adoption of the Comprehensive Plan Amendments, Adoption of the Comprehensive Plan Update, Update of Traffic Standards Code, Adoption of Marijuana Regulations, Old Bellevue Park Land Use Code Amendment (LUCA).
Note: Council in August Recess after this meeting.
http://www.bellevuewa.gov/council_overview.htm

8/4 East Bellevue Community Council (6:30, Lake Hills Clubhouse, 15230 Lake Hills Blvd.) Comprehensive Plan Adoption http://www.bellevuewa.gov/EBCC_Homepage.htm

8/4 Arts Commission (4:40, 1E-109) Update from Sound Transit on art for Eastlink, approval of annual funding guides, and plans for Bellwether 2016
http://www.bellevuewa.gov/arts_comm.htm

Bellevue's Neighborhood Outreach Office offers a variety of programs and partnerships for neighborhood leaders and active residents. To learn more about citizen involvement opportunities and programs to enhance neighborhoods, call 425-452-6836.

